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1961 MAR 17 PM 1 14

08650

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Origin

SENT TO: Amembassy MOSCOW PRIORITY 1518

EUR
Info:

" BONN PRIORITY 1624
RPTD INFO: USBER, Berlin 373

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Following is transcript report by CBS Bonn correspondent
Daniel Shorr heard here eight a.m. (EST) March 17:

Details have reached me of Ambassador Llewellyn Thompson's
three-hour talk with Khrushchev last week in Siberia, which indi-
cates Khrushchev is pressing for agreement on Berlin but not insist-
ing on early summit or meeting with President Kennedy. Thompson
in conveying Kennedy's message did not mention Berlin issue, but
Soviet Premier then raised it, and much of subsequent conversation
was devoted to it. Khrushchev said he would not wait indefinitely
for action, but avoided setting any time limit. He said separate
peace treaty with East Germany might include his plan for free city
of West Berlin, so-called, and he seemed surprised when Thompson
countered that West Berlin's present status could also be written
into such a treaty.

Khrushchev told Thompson Berlin issue is vital to East Germany
but not, he said, to America or Russia. Said Khrushchev: "Soviet
Union does not need another 2 million people."

But

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EUR:SOV/P:RTDavies:cdt 3/17/61

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

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But Thompson left no doubt about America's stand. Said Thompson to Khrushchev: "United States is fully committed defend West Berlin; American honor and prestige are at stake."

Khrushchev did seem to accept Kennedy idea of talking through diplomatic channels for a while. He did not ask for early meeting with Kennedy, didn't seem to be particularly concerned about early summit. And at lunch Khrushchev offered toast to successful use of diplomatic channels.

One reason for all this may be Premier's preoccupation with internal matters. He is returning Moscow from his current whistle-stop tour at end next week, but plans spend most of next month in Soviet Central Asia, working, he told Thompson, on new program for Communist Party Congress in October, program to be published in August.

This is CBS News, Bonn.

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